THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) Government had set up a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Justice V.S. Malimath, former Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court and Kerala High Court, on the reforms in Criminal Justice System. The Committee submitted its report in April, 2003 and had given several recommendations relating to Criminal Justice System. The Committee also gave recommendations on raising the working days of the Supreme Court and High Courts, preparing an arrear eradication scheme, summary disposal of cases, imparting specialized training to judges, better facilities for witnesses etc.

(c) These recommendations were forwarded to all the Registrars General of Supreme Court and High Courts.

(d) and (e) Government has taken several measures to streamline the judicial system. In order to make justice accessible to common man special tribunals and courts like Central Administrative Tribunal, Family Courts, Labour Courts have been set up. The Government has also computerised Metropolitan city courts and capital city courts so that litigants can access the cause-list, daily orders and judgements through the Internet. The project for computerization of all the Subordinate Courts in the country has also been finalized for implementation.

Allocation of funds for judiciary

813. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the allocation for judiciary in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans;

(b) whether it is a fact that to clear all pending cases in the courts, manifold increase in the number of judges is needed which is in turn would need increase in infrastructure and support staff while allocation to judiciary in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans is approximately 0.07 per cent; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that as the subordinate courts lack basic amenities, diversion of funds would further deteriorate the working environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The allocation for judiciary in the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan was Rs. 384.00 crore and Rs. 700 crore respectively.

(b) and (c) Judge strength for High Courts is reviewed every three years by Department of Justice. The next review is being undertaken during 2006. Judge strength for the Subordinate judiciary is reviewed by the concerned State Governments. The expenditure in respect of High Courts and Subordinate Courts (including the provision for infrastructural facilities) is to be met by the concerned State Governments. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary is being implemented only to augment the resources of the State Governments.

Revision of electoral rolls

814. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether electoral rolls of all the States have been revised and updated by the Election Commission;

(b) if so, the total number of electors, State-wise;

(c) the number and percentage of electors who have been issued identity cards, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the electors issued with identity cards in Andhra Pradesh, District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Election Commission has informed that as per the consistent policy of the Commission, the electoral rolls of all States/Union Territories are revised/updated every year with reference to new qualifying date, *i.e.*, the 1st January of the year.

The Election Commission of India has ordered the revision of rolls of all States/Union Territories with reference to 1.1.2006 as the qualifying date. The revision work is in various stages of progress in different States/ UTs. In the States of Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra and Nagaland the process of summary revision is yet to begin.